



National Weather Service Springfield, Missouri

This publication has been designed to enhance readiness and decision response by the emergency management community. Severe storms whether it be tornadoes, large hail, damaging winds or flooding can have a significant impact across the Missouri Ozarks and southeast Kansas.

Serving the Missouri Ozarks and extreme southeast

NWS Springfield has forecast and warning responsibility for 34 counties in the Missouri Ozarks and 3 counties in southeast Kansas.

NWS Springfield strives to serve decision makers with accurate and timely routine and hazardous weather information.



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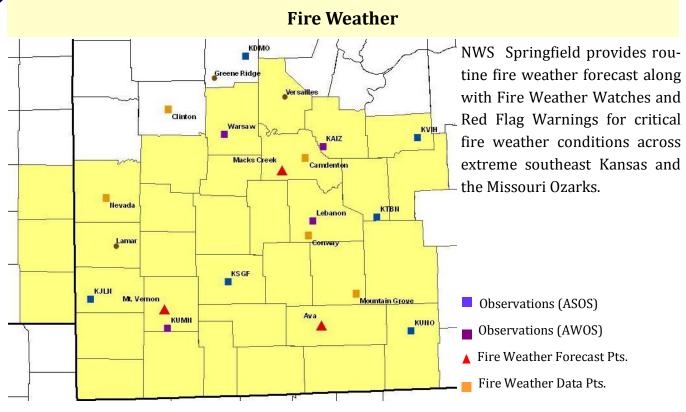
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Open House



http://www.crh.noaa.gov/sgf/?n=fire_weather

Spot Forecast - Government Agencies Only

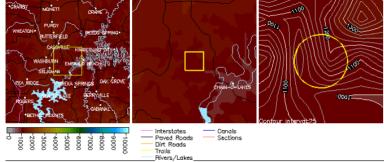
Spot Forecast can be requested by government agencies only for prescribed burns or wildfires. Detailed forecast includes temperatures, relative humidity, wind direction and speed, mixing heights and smoke dispersion.



Chute Ridge (Proposed ignition time: 1100 CDT 4/9/10) (Requested: 1827 CDT 4/8/10)

Forecast complete at 908 CDT 4/9/10

Requested by: USFS Phone: (417) 683-4428 x119 FAX: (417) 683-5722



Location: Legal: Lat/Lon:36 33 57/93 47 39 Quad:
Calculated: (36.56583°N 93.79417°W) (EAGLE ROCK MO)
Elevation:850-1130 Drainage:unknown Aspectall Size:325
Fuel Type:3 9 (Partially Sheltered)

http://spot.nws.noaa.gov/cgi-bin/spot/spotmon?site=sgf

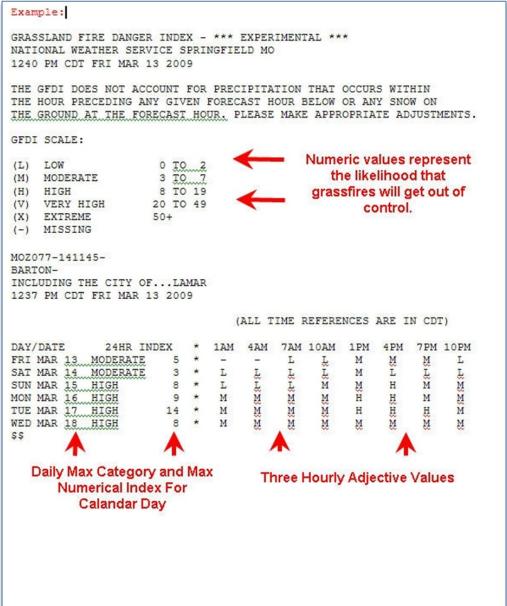
NWS Experimental Fire Weather Page - http://radar.srh.noaa.gov/fire/

Grassland Fire Danger Index



The Grassland Fire Danger Index (GFDI) forecast is used as a fire weather planning tool for land management personnel, emergency management, and county fire personnel. The GFDI is available at the NWS Springfield, MO fire weather web site and is updated twice daily.

http://www.crh.noaa.gov/sgf/?n=fire_weather



Looking for automated feeds of weather information? Check these resources out.

RSS Feeds

Really Simple Syndication (RSS) is a family of web formats used to publish frequently updated digital content. RSS feeds are most commonly used to update news articles and other content that changes quickly. Users of RSS content use programs called feed 'readers' or 'aggregators' (newer versions of Web browsers offer built in support for RSS feeds): the user 'subscribes' to a feed by entering the link of the RSS feed into their RSS feed reader; the RSS feed reader then checks the subscribed feeds to see if any have new content since the last time it checked, and if so, retrieves the new content and present it to the user.

Local NWS Springfield RSS page - http://www.crh.noaa.gov/sgf/?n=sgf_rss

Email Updates

The National Weather Service (NWS) is proposing an experimental use of email updates to provide NWS information.

To provide this, the services of GovDelivery, Inc. has been procured. GovDelivery provides similar services for a number of other government entities and offers unique ability to allow NWS customers to not only subscribe to NWS bulletins, but to also learn about email updates available from agencies with missions related to NWS.

https://service.govdelivery.com/service/multi_subscribe.html?code=USNWS

GIS Resources

Geographical Information Systems (GIS) can be a useful tool to monitor weather information and assess weather impacts. Most any type of weather information can be displayed on multiple geographic layers through GIS applications such as Google Earth. This type of visualization tool can enhance situational awareness and support more informed decisions.

GIS data on a virtual globe platform such as Google Earth can be utilized during severe weather events to assess the potential risk and impact. Weather information including radar, surface observations, warning polygons, etc. can be viewed in GIS applications.

Radar & Warning Polygons in GIS - http://radar.srh.noaa.gov/

Virtual Globe (KML) resources - http://www.srh.noaa.gov/gis/kml/

Short Term Forecast Resources

A number of Short Term Forecast resources are available to support decision makers.

Short Term Forecast (NOWCAST)

Short Term Forecasts are issued to provided detailed weather information during significant or rapidly changing weather conditions. Short Term Forecast provides a summary of the location, coverage, intensity and movement of precipitation including thunderstorms. Short Term Forecasts answer "what?", "where?" and "when?".

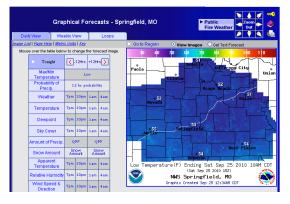
Short Term Forecast Example:

.NOW...

SHOWERS WILL CONTINUE TO SPREAD EAST ACROSS THE MISSOURI OZARKS THROUGH 7 AM AHEAD OF AN APPROACHING COLD FRONT. THE LEADING EDGE OF THE SHOWERS EXTENDING FROM NEAR ROLLA...TO HOUSTON...TO GAINESVILLE...WILL REACH THE EMINENCE AND ALTON AREAS BY 6 AM. MODERATE TO LOCALLY HEAVY RAINFALL WILL ACCOMPANY THE SHOWERS WITH RAINFALL AMOUNTS OF ONE QUARTER TO THREE QUARTERS OF AN INCH COMMON. LOCALLY HEAVIER AMOUNTS IN EXCESS OF AN INCH WILL BE POSSIBLE. THOSE TRAVELING TONIGHT SHOULD BE AWARE OF PONDING OF WATER ON AREA ROADS. WIND GUSTS TO 35 MPH WILL ACCOMPANY THE HEAVIER SHOWERS. THE SHOWERS WILL END FROM THE WEST ACROSS SOUTHWEST AND CENTRAL MISSOURI.

NOWCAST Text - http://www.crh.noaa.gov/product.php?site=sgf&product=NOW&issuedby=sgf Short Term Forecast Briefing Page - http://www.crh.noaa.gov/sgf/?n=nowcastbrief

Short Term Forecast Graphics



A graphical depiction of the forecast derived from the National Digital Forecast Database can be viewed on a local and regional level. Forecast elements can be viewed in 3, 6 and 12 hour increments

http://www.weather.gov/forecasts/wfo/sectors/sgf.php

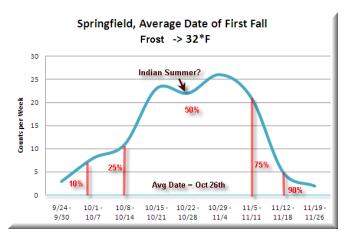
Area Forecast Discussion

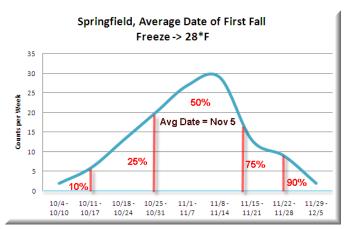
If you want to know what a forecaster is thinking and the reasoning for a forecast to go to our Area Forecast Discussion.

http://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=SGF&issuedby=SGF&product=AFD&format=CI&version=1&glossary=1

Frost & Freeze Information

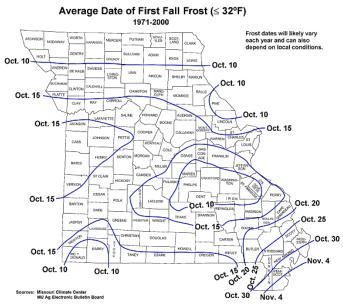
As we head out of Summer and into Autumn, temperatures will begin to cool down and leaves will begin to change their color. This is also the period that signals the end of the growing season as temperatures begin to fall below freezing. Generally the average first date receiving temperatures of 32 degrees F occurs around October 26th. While this can damage still tender vegetation when the temperature begins to fall to 28 degrees F or below, plants freeze and die. This occurs around the 5th of November.



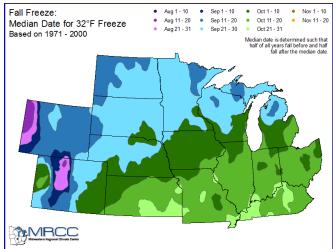


Springfield Data:

The earliest date of first killing frost/freeze in Autumn was September 24, 1989. The latest date of first killing frost/freeze in Autumn was November 25, 1931. The average date of first killing frost/freeze in Autumn (1971-2000) is October 15th.



Frost Advisories and Freeze Warnings are issued by NWS Springfield for the occurrence of conditions favorable for frost or a hard freeze until a "killing freeze" has occurred.



Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook

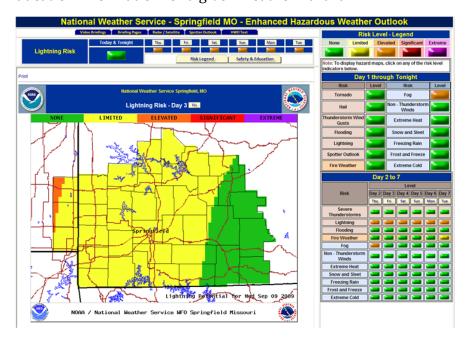
The Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook (EHWO) is a decision support service that supports preparedness and response efforts prior to and during hazardous weather. The EHWO provides decision makers with convenient access to potential weather hazard information by graphically depicting the risk of weather hazards through day seven.

The EHWO packages five-level, color coded alert buttons and text within a comprehensive web page suite.

http://www.crh.noaa.gov/sgf/?n=dec sup main

The Enhanced Hazardous Weather Outlook (EHWO) page provides:

- Weather Hazard Graphics depicting the type, severity and coverage of weather hazards
- Hazardous Weather Buttons conveying hazardous weather risk levels for a given day
- Hazardous Weather Outlook text
- Spotter Outlook Graphic that portrays the need for spotter activation
- Link to briefing pages that provide packaged information for a given weather hazard
- Links to video briefings that elaborate on a given hazardous weather event
- Links to GOES satellite and NEXRAD radar
- Risk Legend section that defines the risk levels
- Safety and Education information for a given weather hazard



Communication

Effective communication is critical during severe weather to ensure accurate and timely information is disseminated to the proper authorities, the National Weather Service and the general public. The diagram below illustrates the basic flow of information.

eSpotter



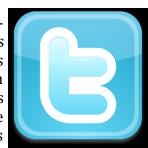
eSpotter is a system to facilitate the submission of spotter reports online. The system enhances and increases timely & accurate online spotter reporting and communications between spotters and their local weather forecast offices. The use of the system is currently available for trained spotters and emergency managers.

To sign up go to...

http://espotter.weather.gov/

Twitter

The National Weather Service has started a testing phase to assess the potential for Twitter as a public weather reporting tool. During hazardous weather, reports of what is happening in your area can help forecasters make important decisions about warnings. Twitter may provide us with an easier way of getting some of those reports. A number of offices across the country, including the Springfield Weather Forecast Office, will be monitoring a specialized search page during significant weather events that will show weather reports posted on Twitter.



http://www.crh.noaa.gov/news/display_cmsstory.php?





National Weather Service Springfield, MO Weather Forecast Office Springfield-Branson Regional Airport 5805 West Highway EE Springfield, MO 65802-8430

The mission of the National Weather:

The National Weather Service (NWS) provides weather, hydrologic, and climate forecasts and warnings for the United States, its territories, adjacent waters and ocean areas, for the protection of life and property and the enhancement of the national economy.

NWS data and products form a national information database and infrastructure which can be used by other governmental agencies, the private sector, the public, and the global community.

http://www.weather.gov/springfield

2010 NWS Springfield Open House - October 23

The Springfield National Weather Service Forecast Office will hold its 2010 Open House on Saturday, October 23 from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

The public is invited to come out, visit with the local staff, and learn about the mission and activities of your National Weather Service! In addition, the NWS will be holding a canned food drive in conjunction with the Open House. Visitors should feel free to bring a few non-perishable food items for the Ozark Food Harvest!

